

Submitter: Cierra Buer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural  
Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4034

To: The House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

The ARE program as it stands is a disservice to the animals of Oregon. Instead of rooting out animal welfare violations and inadequate care, it is making animal rescues divert time and money to a program that provides no useful service except to make enough money to fund itself. The ARE no longer inspects facilities or their animals, but bases all decisions on paperwork submitted by the rescue. How can the welfare or effectiveness of an organization be properly judged in this manner? The program should be funded by the State so it can focus on making rescue organizations better, not run them out of business. In 2024, at least 65,764 dogs and cats entered Oregon's shelter and rescue system. These rescues and shelters are making a difference for animals, communities and people. They need support, not punishment. Likewise, veterinary facilities do not qualify as animal rescue entities and have their own governing board to deal with the various issues that may occur.

Sincerely,

Cierra Buer, DVM  
Lark Ranch Rescue and Rehabilitation